

Claims

1. A game system comprising a first game execution apparatus and a second game execution apparatus that have  
5 a different internal structure from each other, wherein  
the first game execution apparatus includes:

a first program reading unit operable to read,  
from a first game recording medium, a first game  
program that indicates a procedure of a game;

10 a first character reading unit operable to read,  
from a portable recording medium, character data  
that indicates a characteristic of a character that  
appears in the game;

a first input unit operable to receive an  
15 inputting operation from a user; and

a first game execution unit operable to proceed  
with the game according to the inputting operation  
received at the first input unit and the procedure  
indicated by the first game program, and make the  
20 character appear in the game in accordance with  
the character data read by the first character  
reading unit, and

the second game execution apparatus includes:

a second program reading unit operable to read,  
25 from a second game recording medium, a second game

program that indicates the procedure of the game;

a second character reading unit operable to read the character data from the portable recording medium;

5 a second input unit operable to receive an inputting operation from the user; and

a second game execution unit operable to proceed with the game according to the inputting operation received at the second input unit and the procedure indicated by the second game program, and make the character appear in the game in accordance with the character data read by the second character reading unit.

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15 2. A game execution apparatus that proceeds with a game according to a game program, comprising:

a program reading unit operable to read, from a game recording medium, a game program that indicates a procedure of a game;

20 a character reading unit operable to read, from a portable recording medium, character data that indicates a characteristic of a character that appears in the game;

an input unit operable to receive an inputting operation from a user; and

25 a game execution unit operable to proceed with the

game according to the inputting operation and the procedure,  
and make the character appear in the game in accordance  
with the character data.

5 3. The game execution apparatus of Claim 2, further  
comprising:

a request unit operable to request the character data  
from a server apparatus;

an obtaining unit operable to obtain the character  
10 data from the server apparatus via a network; and

a writing unit operable to write the obtained character  
data to the portable recording medium.

4. The game execution apparatus of Claim 2, further  
15 comprising:

an authentication unit operable to check authenticity  
of the portable recording medium, wherein

the character reading unit reads the character data  
when the authenticity has been ensured.

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5. The game execution apparatus of Claim 2, wherein  
the game recording medium further stores therein  
permission information that indicates whether change is  
permissible on the character's characteristic,

25 the character reading unit further reads the

permission information from the game recording medium, and

the game execution unit, when the read permission information indicates affirmatively, changes the character's characteristic as the game proceeds, and  
5 prohibits the character's characteristic from being changed when the read permission information indicates negatively.

6. The game execution apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising:

10 a character writing unit operable to, when the game execution unit changes the character's characteristic, overwrite the character data in the portable recording medium with after-change character data that indicates a characteristic of the character after changed, wherein

15 the character reading unit further reads the after-change character data from the portable recording medium, and

the game execution unit changes the character's characteristic as the game proceeds, in accordance with  
20 the read after-change character data.

7. The game execution apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising:

a writing unit operable to write the read permission  
25 information to the portable recording medium.

8. The game execution apparatus of Claim 5, wherein  
the game recording medium further stores therein a  
degree of change allowed on the character, in association  
5 with the permission information, and

the game execution unit changes the character's  
characteristic as the game proceeds, in accordance with  
the degree of change stored in the game recording medium.

10 9. A portable recording medium comprising:

a storage unit that stores therein character data that  
indicates a characteristic of a character that appears in  
a game;

an authentication unit operable to check authenticity  
15 of a game execution apparatus; and

an output unit operable to, when the authenticity has  
been ensured, read the character data from the storage unit  
and output the read character data to the game execution  
apparatus.

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10. A game execution method used by a game execution  
apparatus that proceeds with a game according to a game  
program that indicates a procedure of the game, the game  
execution method comprising:

25 a program reading step of reading, from a game

recording medium, a game program that indicates a procedure  
of a game;

a character reading step of reading, from a portable  
recording medium, character data that indicates a  
5 characteristic of a character that appears in the game;

an input step of receiving an inputting operation from  
a user; and

a game execution step of proceeding with the game  
according to the inputting operation and the procedure,  
10 and making the character appear in the game in accordance  
with the character data.

11. A game execution program used by a game execution  
apparatus that proceeds with a game according to a game  
15 program that indicates a procedure of the game, the game  
execution program have the game execution apparatus to  
execute:

a program reading step of reading, from a game  
recording medium, a game program that indicates a procedure  
20 of a game;

a character reading step of reading, from a portable  
recording medium, character data that indicates a  
characteristic of a character that appears in the game;

an input step of receiving an inputting operation from  
25 a user; and

a game execution step of proceeding with the game according to the inputting operation and the procedure, and making the character appear in the game in accordance with the character data.

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12. The game execution program of Claim 11, further having the game execution apparatus to execute:

a request step of requesting the character data from a server apparatus;

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an obtaining step of obtaining the character data from the server apparatus via a network; and

a writing step of writing the obtained character data to the portable recording medium.

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13. The game execution program of Claim 12, being recorded in a computer-readable recording medium.

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14. A computer-readable recording medium that stores therein a game execution program used by a game execution apparatus that proceeds with a game according to a game program, the game program indicating a procedure of the game, wherein

the game execution program has the game execution apparatus to execute:

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a program reading step of reading, from a game

recording medium, a game program that indicates a procedure of a game;

5 a character reading step of reading, from a portable recording medium, character data that indicates a characteristic of a character that appears in the game;

an input step of receiving an inputting operation from a user; and

10 a game execution step of proceeding with the game according to the inputting operation and the procedure, and making the character appear in the game in accordance with the character data.